

# Behavioral Health Advisory Council (BHAC) December Minutes (Draft)

MEETING DETAILS	
<b>Date and time:</b>	December 4, 2019 from 10am to 2pm
<b>Venue:</b>	Conference Room @ VACSB Offices in Richmond, Virginia (10128 West Broad Street, Suite B, Glen Allen, VA 23060)
COUNCIL DEMOGRAPHICS	
<b>Present</b>	Katherine Hunter (DBHDS); Livia Jansen (DJJ); Nathanael Rudney (DBHDS); Bruce Cruser (MHAV); Hilary Piland (VACSB); Karen Kallay (Peer); Betsy Lalla (Peer); William Hart (Peer); Alethea Lambert (DBHDS), Deidre Johnson (VOCAL) Hayden Myer (MHAV Staff)
<b>Guest(s)</b>	Patrice Beard (Parent Support)
<b>Unexcused Absences</b>	Catharine Harrison (DARS); Gail Taylor (DBHDS); Sandra O'Dell (SA Services); Kathleen Levenston (Private Provider); Caitlin Reynolds (NAMI-VA); Ashley Everette (Voices for VA's Children); Kathy Harkey (SAARA); Oketa Winn (DMAS); Karlyn Clevert-Smith (Private Provider); Robin Hairfield (Peer); Michael Gregory (DOE); Ron Pritchard (VSIAS/VAAP); Tara Belfast-Hurd (DBHDS); Patricia Parham (DOC); Jean Hoyt (DOH); Shatada Floyd-White (Private Provider)
<b>Excused Absences</b>	
<b>Minutes Taken By</b>	Hilary Piland (Secretary)
<b>Presiding Officer</b>	William Hart (BHAC President)
<b>Order Called</b>	Council convened at 10:10 AM

Quorum **was not** present in today's meeting (requires 13 members, a majority [7 out 13] of these members need be consumers/peers, advocates, and family members)

	Item	Discussion/Action	Responsibility/Follow-Up (if applicable)
<b>Welcome, Introductions, Public Comment)</b>			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>William Hart, Council President called the meeting to order at 10:10.</li> </ul>	<b>OUTCOME:</b> As a follow up from the October meeting, William Hart is still looking into this whether or not the makeup of the membership can (or should) include Developmental Disabilities. The committee agreed that the behavioral health needs of someone with a Developmental Disability should be represented on this committee.

<b>Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting</b>			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes from the October 16<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved unanimously after it was noted that the spelling of Deidre Johnson and Nathanael Rudney's name was incorrect in the minutes.</li> </ul>	
<b>Presentations and Reports Given to BHAC from DBHDS</b>			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The committee talked about the benefit of having a presentation or report a few times a year from DBHDS on the financial information on the block grant.</li> <li>Nathanael shared that the council has focused mostly on the MH side of the Block Grant so far. It could also focus more in the SUD side if decided.</li> <li>Nathanael presented the URS Report to the group. This is a report from SAMSHA. The data for this report comes from the CSBs through their HER, to CCS3.</li> <li>The data that is being reported aligns with the priorities outlined in the block grant.</li> <li>Nathanael shared that part of this report shows the survey that is sent to CSB consumers. It is a random sample that is sent to each CSB. It measures social connectedness and improved functioning.</li> <li>Karen Kallay asked if there is a clear way to see the federal funding versus the state funding. The group talked about how it's hard to show it all in a quick understandable way.</li> <li>Nathanael will see if Benjamin Marks or Ramona Howell from DBHDS can visit the group to explain the federal and state funding.</li> <li>Nathanael shared that these data points are mandated by SAMSHA so they will not change. But from this data, if the council sees a particular disparity or area that the council wants to give more focus on, then the council can look into that.</li> <li>It was noted that the category of the profile of adult criminal justice and youth is blank. The data regarding schools blank as well. This data is reported in another report that DBHDS has.</li> </ul>	<p><b>OUTCOME:</b> Nathanael is working on having Benjamin Marks present to the council soon on the financial information on the block grant.</p> <p><b>UPDATE:</b> A request was made at the October BHAV Council meeting that a representative from the BHAC sit on the STEP-VA planning committee meetings particularly to look at the Peer Services step. Alethea Lambert asked Mark Blackwell about this request. He felt that a representative from the BHAC should be a part of the Peer and Family Support step. The planning for that step is dying down for now because of the GA session. If someone wants to be a part of the other steps, then reach out to Mark Blackwell.</p> <p><b>OUTCOME:</b> The committee talked about the possibility of creating benchmarks to see</p>

			how well people are doing. This could be data points other than what is currently collected for SAMSHA. The BHAC will take this discussion though the Evaluation and Monitoring Committee and Executive Council.
		Lunch	
<b>FOIA Requirements for BHAC Meetings</b>			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nathanael sent out a presentation on FOIA to the BHAC from Karen Taylor. Karen is the attorney to DBHDS from the Attorney General's office. The presentation provides guidelines on the BHAC meetings being open to the public and requirements for when the meetings are opened to conference call. There are also specific requirements on having the locations the calls are made from open to the public as well.</li> <li>Also, there would need to be time for public comments at each meeting. The time spent on comments could be controlled by having a time limit for each person to speak.</li> <li>The council discussed that if there's a disability or there are immediate circumstances that a member runs into and cannot physically attend, then that individual should still be able to vote through calling in. Nathanael will check if the disability part must fall under ADA.</li> <li>This BHAC is subject to FOIA because the council is a federally mandated council.</li> </ul>	<p><b>OUTCOME:</b> In order for a council member to vote from a conference call, Nathanael will check on the following: When a disability is the reason for a member to call in to the meeting rather than attending in person, does that disability need to fall under the ADA?</p> <p><b>OUTCOME:</b> William Hart will find out more on the meeting requirements before the February meeting.</p> <p><b>OUTCOME:</b> Nathanael will look into whether or not the BHAC should post the meeting information on the Commonwealth Calendar. The BHAC would be able to post meeting agendas, presentations and minutes on this calendar.</p>

Advocacy Efforts by BHAC		
	<p><b><u>Mental Health Advocacy Day:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bruce Crusier shared that Mental Health Advocacy Day is February 5, 2020. This is where NAMI – VA, VOICES, VOCAL, SAARA, and MHAV gather people together at the General Assembly to advocate for some key budget and legislative items that these groups have in common.</li> <li>• Bruce asked that the BHAC financially support this advocacy day. He noted that the BHAC supported advocacy day the past two years.</li> <li>• Bruce asked to move that request and William seconded that request.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Discussion on developing an Advocacy and Legislative Committee within BHAC:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One of the broad directions for this council is to advise on policy. The council discussed developing an advocacy and legislative committee.</li> <li>• Deidre shared that VOCAL will have priorities for the first time this year. One is to increase the reimbursement rate for Peer Recovery Specialists and the other is to support the barrier crimes legislation that came from the DBHDS Barrier Crimes workgroup. Delegate Mullins, Senator Mason, and Senator Pillion are showing an interest in being a patron for this legislation.</li> <li>• Karen Kallay volunteered to look at the budget and legislative priorities of VACSB, NAMI – VA, SAARA, VOCAL, MHAV, and the VA Recovery Coalition to find the common areas that these groups support. Karen will send this out to the whole council to see if there are any objections to what she sends out.</li> </ul>	<p><b>OUTCOME: THE BHAC approved funding for Mental Health Advocacy day on February 5<sup>th</sup>.</b></p> <p><b>OUTCOME: Karen Kallay will look at the budget and legislative priorities of VACSB, NAMI – VA, SAARA, VOCAL, MHAV, and the VA Recovery Coalition to find the common areas that this group can support. Karen will send this out to the whole council to see if there are any objections to what she sends out.</b></p>
Membership and Membership Application		

	<p><b><u>COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The council discussed the need to have more members on each committee. William shared that every council member needs to be on a committee.</li> <li>• Deidre Johnson asked for the council's approval to have Heather Orrock as the VOCAL agency representative and Elizabeth Bouldin-Clopton as a Peer representative. Heather would be the VOCAL representative in place of Deidre. Both Heather and Elizabeth work for VOCAL, but Heather would be the VOCAL representative.</li> <li>• Bruce Cruser proposed that Deidre be an auxiliary member.</li> <li>• The group supported this strategy and noted that it's ok to move members around (who fit more than one membership category) based on where they need to be plugged in.</li> <li>• William asked that the subcommittees meet at least once between Council meetings. Hayden could send the outcomes from those subcommittee meetings if sent to him.</li> <li>• Deidre shared that either Heather or Elizabeth should serve on the Membership Committee. Elizabeth has good experience in diversity and inclusion from her work for Goodwill Industries of the Valley.</li> <li>• It was noted that Malaina Poor should be taken off the membership committee and Ron Prichard will be added to membership.</li> <li>• Bruce mentioned that the Evaluation and Monitoring committee looks at more than just the block grant. It is supposed to look at all the documents involved. For ex., the state plans and contract should be reviewed.</li> <li>• Elizabeth Bouldin-Clopton volunteered to be on the Evaluation and Monitoring committee and on the Adult and Elder Committee.</li> <li>• Patrice Beard volunteered to be the liaison from Child and Youth to the Block Grant committee.</li> <li>• Bruce Cruser was added to the Bylaws committee</li> <li>• Heather Orrock will be the membership committee chair.</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>SEE COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>William asked that the subcommittees meet at least once between Council meetings. Hayden could send the outcomes from those subcommittee meetings.</b></li> <li>• <b>Heather Orrock will be the membership committee chair.</b></li> </ul>
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		Notes taken by Hilary Piland; Edited by Myer & Cruser
	<b>Meeting was adjourned at: 2:00 PM</b>	

**Next Meeting(s):**

February 19, 2020 at 10 am – 2 pm

**Location of meetings:**

Conference Room @ VACSB Offices in Richmond, Virginia (10128 West Broad Street, Suite B, Glen Allen, VA 23060)

**MINUTES APPROVED BY COUNCIL ON \_\_\_\_\_**